

SUBMITTED VIA E-MAIL TO RECIPIENT AND SWRCB-2014informational-order@waterboards.ca.gov

March 5, 2015

Ms. Barbara Evoy
Deputy Director, Division of Water Rights
State Water Resources Control Board
P.O. Box 100
Sacramento, CA 95812-0100

Subject: Order WR 2015-0002-DWR

Dear Ms. Evoy:

The Turlock Irrigation District ("District") is in receipt of the above referenced Order, dated Feb. 4, 2015, issued by the Division of Water Rights ("Division") requiring additional information from diverters on the Sacramento and San Joaquin River Watershed and Delta.

TID supports the comments of the San Joaquin Tributaries Authority sent to you in a separate correspondence, dated Feb. 12, 2015, which identifies the legal concerns related to the the Order. Regardless of the legal interpretations related to the Order, a formal order to acquire this information is wholly unnecessary.

The District has previously offered to assist the Division by providing information and technical assistance at your convenience. On July 21, 2014, TID representatives Wes Monier, Herb Smart and John Mills met with you, Chair Marcus, Vice Chair Spivy-Weber, and Mr. Howard, during which time TID volunteered to provide your staff with information to help overcome the lack of reliable supply-and-demand data from which SWRCB suffered at that time. The District's offer was made in sincerity to assist the SWRCB's work through not only the short-term challenges presented in 2014, but also as a long-term offer to improve what Board Member Doduc had described during the 2014 curtailment process as a troubling lack of trust between regulators and the regulated community. TID agreed with her assessment and immediately moved to change that dynamic.

At the July 21 meeting, we made it clear that the District wanted its operations in these trying times to be as transparent to the Board and staff as possible. We introduced Mr. Monier, who is the functional "water master" for the Tuolumne River for the District. He described TID's various operations criteria and regulatory requirements to those present, and he also provided an informational handout. TID has not withdrawn its offer for transparency and cooperation, so, therefore, the Order is unnecessary. The Board need not issue an order to get what it already has whenever it asks for it from TID.

The District will submit to the Division the information requested in the Order in the same voluntary spirit that was the basis for the July 21 meeting at your offices. This information will be submitted via the Board's Online Informational Order Webform and the Board's 2014 Informational Order supplemental e-mail address prior to the March 6, 2015 deadline, as specified in the Order. We continue

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to look forward to working with you, your Division, and the Board in 2015 in responding to the challenges of this increasingly challenging drought in 2015.

On a different note relevant to drought actions: because of the District's proactive water planning in past years, we see no immediate challenge to fulfilling this year's Tuolumne River instream flow requirements pursuant to a 1996 FERC Order.

We plan to send a letter to the Board in due time outlining the drought actions we plan to take in 2015. We think this type of information reflects our desire to be a good steward of Tuolumne River water resources as well as the District's cooperative relationship with the Board and its staff.

Sincerely,



Casey Hashimoto, P.E.
General Manager

Cc:

Board Members, c/o Jeanine Townsend
Caren Trgovcich